

**In the Specification:**

Please replace the abstract on page 56 of the specification with the following abstract:

Methods, systems and computer program products provide a machine oriented notation for representation and interchange of extensible documents. A document encoded in this notation resides on one or more computer-readable media and includes a node count representing a count of nodes in the document, a node specification for each of the nodes and a data buffer containing attribute names and attribute values referenced from attribute lists (when present) and node values referenced from node value specifications. Each of the node specifications include a node name, a child list specifying index values of zero or more which are children of the node, optionally, an attribute list specifying zero or more (attribute name, attribute value) pair references for attributes of the node, and a node value specification, which is empty if the node has no value.